

Messiah Lutheran Church
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Messiah Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday 9am -4pm

Worship for Sunday February 12, 2023
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Worship Services are in-person and livestreamed/posted on the Messiah YouTube channel. **Wearing of masks is not required but Messiah is a mask-friendly environment.** Covid vaccinations, social distancing, and hand sanitizing are encouraged.

Prayers for Healing and On-Going Health Concerns:

We pray for comfort and healing for all those who are suffering in body, mind or spirit; give them courage and hope in their time of need.



This Week & Coming Up:

- **Lectionary Online Bible Study** (via Zoom) each **Wednesday at 7pm**. We will follow the lectionary Gospel reading each week. All are welcome to join in at any time, no previous attendance necessary. If you are interested in participating, please contact (phone/text) Randi at 306.961.4451 or let Lisa at the Church office know at 306-763-7374/ messiah@sasktel.net
Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84936675671?pwd=bExtMHdlOUkxU0dscjJrM1UvSVdVZz09>
Gospel Lesson: **Matthew 17:1-9**
- **In-person Bible Study** with Pastor Dan in the Peace Chapel. The study on **'The Sermon on the Mount'** concludes on **Thursday, February 16 @ 7:30**. Come join us in person!
- **Pancake/Sausage Meal and Ash Wednesday Service:**
Shrove Tuesday supper is being held on **Ash Wednesday, February 22 @ 5:00 – 6:30pm** in the Fellowship Hall. The Men's Group is serving and all are invited. Cost is **free will offering**. Following is the **Ash Wednesday Service in the Peace Chapel @ 7:00pm**. Please join us for both in order to fill your body and soul, but you are welcome to attend either the supper or the service.



Choir continues on a weekly basis on **Sunday at 9:15am**, in the Sanctuary. All are Welcome! Please contact May Janzen or Colleen Bowen if you have questions or for further information.



Emergency Appeal - Earthquake in Türkiye and Syria: The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) joins with our partner Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) in calling for prayers for those affected by the earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria and to give generously to support their urgent humanitarian needs. On February 6, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake hit the border region, with a second major earthquake hitting Türkiye again just hours later.

Aftershocks have been felt across the region since. Key infrastructure, including residential buildings, roads and power grids have been destroyed. Historical landmarks - some that have stood for more than 2,300 years - have also been heavily damaged. Among those affected are millions of refugees and displaced people living near the border of Syria and Türkiye (commonly known as Turkey, but whose traditional name has been recognized by the international community since 2022.)

Donations can be made to support relief efforts as follows:

- Make a designated offering for "Türkiye and Syria Earthquake" through any ELCIC congregation
 - Call CLWR at 1-800-661-2597 (locally at 204-694-6502) to donate or go online to clwr.org/earthquake
 - Send a cheque made payable to CLWR and mailed to CLWR, 600-177 Lombard Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 0W5.
- Please indicate that you wish to contribute to "Türkiye and Syria Earthquake"

Prayer Requests for L.C.B.I

- Pray for the LCBI Mexico Mission Team (please see below narrative).
- Pray for upcoming choir tours in Saskatchewan and Alberta.
- Pray for the '1000 for 1000' campaign that LCBI stays financially sound.
- Pray for students as they start Semester II.
 - New challenges for many.
 - 6 new students joining us for semester II
 - Final Semester for Grade 12's.



What a beautiful January we have been blessed with! We hope you had a chance to be outside and experience 3 weeks of amazing hoar frost and mild weather. We sure took advantage of it by forging ahead on renovations. The roof is close to being completed, and inside you can see some wonderful changes!

One way to enjoy this winter is planning your next visit to Kinasao! We've planned two cross country skiing events for you to join in on! The Loppet and the Biathlon will both take place on March 4. Participation in both events are free!



Attention : Youth **CLAY GATHERING – AUGUST 2023**



Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth Gathering:
 For some this is a long tradition and we are happy to get it back.
 For others this is new, so check out the 'about' page:
<https://claygathering.ca/whatisclay/>

Registration starts in February, so please let us know ASAP! CLAY is open to youth ages 14 – 19. Please contact Lisa at the Messiah office or Merv Bender if you are interested in learning more about participating in the CLAY gathering in Waterloo, ON. **Lisa: 306-763-7374/ messiah@sasktel.net ; Merv: 306.960.8346/ merv.bender@sasktel.net**

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

We gather in worship, as a fellowship of people in the presence of the living God who makes all things new, and whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin:

Holy God, **You speak and call us to all to live in fellowship with You. You give us forgiveness to free us from our guilt and fears. You give us instruction to guide us in our journey. You give us your promises which we can trust in both good and hard times. And you call us to live that life in honour to You our God and in service to others. We confess that we often stray and miss so much of your purpose and blessing. We confess we live too much in our own appetites and fears. Draw us back in your mercy, forgive our straying and help us to daily enjoy and share the richness of your blessings. Amen.**

On the cross Jesus proclaimed: "Father forgive them . . .", he took our debt to the grave, and He rose again just as He promised He would. So now hear again His word from the cross; "Forgiven" . . . and hear again His promises of new life as we look to Easter. And let us journey on to discover that this is indeed real. Amen.

GATHERING SONG: ELW582 'Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling'

GREETING (ELW p. 184)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE (ELW p. 184)

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

**For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord
Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

**That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord
Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

**For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord
Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

**For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord
Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

HYMN OF PRAISE (ELW p. 185)

Glory to God in the highest, the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God in the highest, the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

Glory to God in the highest, the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Amen. Amen.

Glory to God in the highest, the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Glory to God in the highest, the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, you are the strength of all who hope in you. As human beings we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

The LORD sets before the people of God a clear choice. Life and prosperity will come to the faithful; loss of the land will be the consequence of disobedience. Choosing life entails loving and holding fast to the Lord. Life in God's presence presupposes the promise made to the ancestors.

[Moses said to the people:] ¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 119:1-8

¹Happy are they whose way is blameless, who follow the teaching of the LORD!

²Happy are they who observe your decrees and seek you with all their hearts,

³who never do any wrong, but always walk in your ways.

⁴You laid down your commandments, that we should fully keep them.

⁵Oh, that my ways were made so direct that I might keep your statutes!

⁶Then I should not be put to shame, when I regard all your commandments.

⁷I will thank you with a true heart, when I have learned your righteous judgments.

⁸I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

As a part of the body of Christ, the Church; we are coworkers who belong to God, the one who truly controls and continuously empowers the ministry of the church.

¹Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human? ⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. ⁹For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 188)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:21-37

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ²¹"You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' ²²But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. ²⁷"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell. ³¹"It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' ³²But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. ³³Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' ³⁴But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON: Pastor Dan Haugen. "The Things that Make for Life"

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW685 'Take My Life, That I May Be' (vs 1-4)

APOSTLE'S CREED (ELW p. 189)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

...

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 191)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

PEACE: The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

THANKSGIVING & SENDING

OFFERING HYMN: ELW691 'Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring'

OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 190)

Let us pray. **Before you O God we come as those who are called to live out our love for you and for the people among whom we live. As you have blessed our lives, may you so craft us in heart and mind, that we might share your blessings with those we live among. May the words we speak, and the actions we live, be offerings given in thanksgiving for all You have done for us so that others might also be blessed. Amen.**

BLESSING

In contrast to all that is evil and destructive, God comes to set us free and gives us new direction for life. May God bless, strengthen and guide you through all life's journey and may your lives be a blessing to those you meet. (sung). **Amen, Amen, Amen.**

SENDING SONG: ELW538 'The Lord Now Sends Us Forth'

DISMISSAL

Go in God's peace. May your lives bring light to all whom you meet on the way. **Thanks be to God.**